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FLOOR DEBATE

March 28, 2002      LB 931A  
                         LR 4

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Debate on the A bill? Senator Stuhr, you're recognized to close. She waives that opportunity. The question before the body is the adopt...or the advancement of LB 931A. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. We're voting on the advancement of the A bill. Thank you. Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 931A.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Bill advances. We next move over to General File, Speaker priority bills, LR 4CA. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 4CA, by Senator Landis. It proposes an amendment to Article XIII, Section 2 of the Nebraska Constitution. Introduced on January 8 of last year, at that time referred to the Government Committee. Bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President. (AM0546, Legislative Journal page 824, First Session, 2001.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Landis, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this bill went to the Government Committee and was reported out and I ask for its advancement. It's an idea that occurs in a number of other states. It's an idea that occurs in this state but in a different context, and it is an authorization for tax-exempt financing. We now have tax-exempt financing in a number of different places. One of them that's probably most analogous would be the revenue bonds that are issued as far as industrial revenue bonds done by counties and cities. What this bill authorizes is the...it authorizes the Legislature to pass a law. In other words, if we were to pass this constitutional amendment, the Legislature would be empowered to act but it would not create a substantive right other than our ability to act. What the power that would be given to us would be, would be the power to authorize counties and cities to lease or finance real or personal property other than property that's used for religious purposes, essentially, and suitable for use by nonprofit enterprises through revenue bonds. The revenue bonds, as you recall, do not implicate the tax authority or the